

May 24, 2021

To the Regulatory Commission,

I am responding to proposed changes to the Postal Service. In short, please don't do it. Mail is part of our infrastructure and we don't need it made worse, we need it made better, stronger. People get medications through the mail; I might want this option one day. I often order household supplies which are sent through the mail. I order gifts for people which are sent through the mail. I get communications from insurance and the DMV through the mail. We are not at a point yet where everything can be done via email or other electronic means. It's essential that this service is restored to a high level.

Historically, I haven't had many issues with mail delivery. However, in the last six months, I've had two issues. In the first instance, my package was lost. The sender took it to the post office and no one knows what happened from there. In the second, it was never picked up from the sender and I had to contact them to see what was happening. The first was a sender in California, the second sender was in the mid-west. Regarding mail I get regularly, it took more than a week from my most recent pay stub to arrive and it is sent from a location that is 30 minutes away by car.

Based on recent experience, I cannot idly sit by and allow proposed changes to happen. We don't need more post offices closed, especially when the blue boxes have been removed from the neighborhood. I already have to take my bills that I cannot do via Billpay to the post office because the closest blue box was removed a while back. We do not need further reduced post office service hours. No longer does my post office have Saturday hours and they now close the windows at 5pm. How is a full-time employee supposed to get postal business done? We need hours extended again, especially as the economy reopens and more people go back to full-time employment.

I realize that USPS is not the only way to send parcels but it's usually the more cost effective option, especially for those who are not multibillion dollar companies. Also there are those that actually rely on the mail. I live in a suburb of Los Angeles so I have options. But what of those that don't? What of those who live in rural areas? I grew up in a rural area where the one post office was over six miles away. I couldn't imagine having to make regular trips there for critical letters and packages.

We can't do this. We shouldn't do this. We should work to improve the Postal Service, not further degrade it. Please don't close more branches or further reduce services. Yes, doing so would of course save money, but at what public cost? The Postal Service is part of our infrastructure, as critical as roads, bridges, internet, utilities and the rest. It needs to be built up, not broken down.

Thank you for your attention.